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(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Hirofumi Nishikawa et al.

International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/005265

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APPARATUS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

**Amendments to the Abstract** begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 3 of this paper.